## SELECTIONS

PROM THE

# VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PANJAB,

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES,

OUDH, CENTRAL PROVINCES, CENTRAL INDIA, AND RAJPUTANA,

Received up to 28th July, 1884.

## POLITICAL.

The Anwaru-l-Akhbar (Lucknow), of the 17th July, adverting to the annexation of Merv by Russia, expresses its concurrence with the Hazár-i-Dástán in thinking that the British Government should occupy Herat. If the Amír consents to the occupation, well and good; otherwise the place should be seized by force, and he should not be regarded as a friendly ally.

Proposed delimitation of the Busso-Afghan frontier.

The Bhárat Bandhu (Aligarh), of the 25th July, referring to the proposed appointment of a Commission for the delimitation of the Russo-Afghan frontier, remarks that the delimitation may postpone, but cannot altogether prevent, the impenditure result between President The

the delimitation may postpone, but cannot altogether prevent, the impending quarrel between Russia and England. The Bandhu will not be surprised if the two powers fail to agree in the matter of the delimitation. If the Russian and the British frontiers become conterminous, hostilities are sure to break out sooner or later. The British Government should not allow the Russians to advance any further.

Circulation, 250 copies.

Circulation, 18 copies.

### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

Circulation, 1,880 copies.

The Akhbar-i-Am (Lahore), of the 23rd July, referring to the report, which the editor has Civil Service question. received from London, giving an account of the measures adopted by the Indian Reform Association there in connection with the Civil Service question, remarks that the Association has really laid the advocates of the restoration of the age standard to 21 years under a deep debt of gratitude. But the Akhbar thinks that the mere raising of the limit of age would not be enough, and is glad to see that the Sarvajanik Sabhá of Poona and some of its native contemporaries share its views in this The sea voyage to London is a greater obstacle in the way of natives desirous of competing for the Civil Service Examination than the standard of age. The present system, under which the examination is held only at London, involves heavy sacrifices to the native candidate. He forfeits his caste, and is put to considerable expense, while his success at the examination is quite uncertain. Few persons can be prepared to run these ruinous risks for a prize which, great as it is, is so uncertain. The examination should be also held in this country for the benefit of natives, and the successful candidates should be required to proceed to England to prosecute their further studies there for a certain time. Such candidates would have no hesitation in going to England.

The Bharat Itwan (Benares), of the 21st July, in conOfficial exodus to the tinuation of its previous article, rehills.

marks that the officers seek to justify
their visits to the hills on the ground that the plains become
comparatively unhealthy in the hot weather. Surely they
show little sense of their duty when they thus betake themselves to sanitaria, leaving the people to fall a prey to
disease. If they spent the lakhs of rupees, which their
migrations cost every year, on sanitary improvements in
their capitals, would not their capitals become more healthy?
Moreover, the migration of the Viceroy, who is a fresh comer

from England, is necessary, but he should not take the major portion of his office with him to Simla, nor should his stay there last so long. The case of the Governors and the Lieutenant-Governors is quite different. They are generally selected from among the civilians who have passed their lives in this country, and are, so to speak, seasoned men. Hence they have no necessity for a migration to the hills during the hot weather.

The Hindustant (Lucknow), of the 23rd July, in com-

menting upon the draft Rules framed Local self-government, by the Local Government under section 9 of the new Municipalities Act for the Lucknow Municipality, remarks that the municipality has been properly divided into six wards according to the police-stations. A better division could not be made. The number of members fixed for each ward may be also considered as unobjectionable. But it is not clear why it has been declared that of the six members for Ganeshganj three will be Europeans. There is no necessity for such a restriction, which is objectionable on several grounds. In the first place, the restriction will reduce the number of native members for that ward only If Eurasians are considered as natives for the purposes of the Municipalities Act, this number may be still further practically reduced. Secondly, the arrangement will create a bad precedent. On the strength of that precedent the Musalmans, who form two-thirds of the entire population of Lucknow, might contend that the Muhammadan members should be two-thirds of the whole Committee, and the Shias or the Kashmiris of the Chauk might claim to be entitled to elect four of the six members for that ward. If the Europeans form a comparatively large and influential portion of the population in Ganeshganj, they

should not be afraid of a general election. As regards the

qualifications of electors, the Hindustani thinks that the rent

qualification is not a very proper one. There are many Government servants and pleaders whose income exceeds

Circulation, 600 copies.

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Rs. 50 a month, but who live in houses whereof the rent is less than Rs. 5 a month. If the proposed rent qualification is sanctioned, these men will not be eligible for the office of voter. Moreover, the officers will find it difficult to estimate the rent of premises in different parts of the town. The rent of a house worth four thousand rupees in Aminabad will be about Rs. 10 a month, while a house of the same value in the Chank will not rent for more than Rs. 2 or 3 a month. In order to avoid these difficulties, it should be provided that any one who occupies premises valued at Rs. 2,000 will be qualified to vote. The other qualification for a voter is that he should be assessed to an imperial or a municipal tax in a sum not less than Rs. 5 a year. It is difficult to realize why this qualification has been proposed, when no municipal tax is levied at Lucknow and the lowest rate at which the license-tax is levied is Rs. 10. We do not think the Municipal Committee contemplates the imposition of a new municipal tax. Hence it should be provided that any one who pays an imperial tax of not less than Rs. 10 will be eligible for an electorship, but that limit would be rather too high. Under these circumstances, the Hindustant is of opinion that a moderate minimum income should be held as qualifying a man for the office of voter. The qualifications proposed for candidates for election are too high. Any occupier of premises whereof the rent is Rs. 15 a month, and any one who is in receipt of an income of Rs. 2,000 a year, should be eligible for memberships. It is to be regretted that no intellectual qualification has been fixed for candidates for memberships. No one should be allowed to be a candidate unless he has a pretty fair knowledge of at least two languages. Such a provision is necessary to prevent the admission of ignorant persons to the committee.

Circulation,

Local self-government in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

The Anjuman-i-Panjdb (Lahore), of the 19th July, states that it appears from the latest Reservance in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

on local self-government that the district officers will be appointed Presidents of the Municipal Committees at Allahabad, Lucknow, Benares, Agra, Bareilly, and Moradabad by nomination. The Pioneer highly approves of this arrangement, which is obviously opposed to Lord Ripon's scheme, and regrets that it has not been extended to Cawnpore, Meernt, Fyzabad, &c. Our Anglo-Indian contemporaries, and especially the Pioneer and the Civil and Military Gasette, have spared no pains in bringing local self-government into It is surprising that the municipal boards of those very places, where competent persons could be found among natives for the office of president, have not been conceded the privilege of electing their presidents. If Sir Alfred Lyall desired that the district officers should be presidents of the boards at Allahabad, &c., he should have contented himself with nominating them as members, as was done by Sir Charles Aitchison with respect to Amritsar. The boards themselves might have elected them as presidents. Even if they selected natives for the office, there would be no harm.

A correspondent of the same paper, of the 26th July, in and the answer to the strictures of the Akhbar-Mr. Parker Akhbar-i- Am. i-Am on Mr. Parker's judgment in the Arya Mittra libel case, observes that Mr. Parker undoubtedly showed indulgence to the editor of the Akhbar-i-Am in letting him off with a fine, and that the latter has laid himself open to the charge of ingratitude by denying this. Mr. Parker bears no ill-will towards journalists. But the vernacular newspapers are most badly conducted and are full of gross libels. The wonder is that the native editors are not more frequently prosecuted for defamation. Why on earth do they meddle with the private affairs of the people? What business had the Arya Mittra to drag the affairs of the Ráni of Sardár Bhagwan Singh into public discussion? Had the editors of that paper indulged in such imputations against her in the time of the Sikhs, they would have been at once blown from a gun. Even if her heirs had been alive at present, they would have undoubtedly killed them. The editor of the Akhbar-i-Am is an inexperienced youth, and does not appreciate the kindness shown to him and the editor of the Arya Mittra by Mr. Parker. Had the Judicial Assistant Commissioner been influenced by no feeling of mercy, he would have sentenced them to two years' imprisonment and also to large fines.

Circulation, 168 copies.

The Najmu-l-Akhbár (Etáwah), of the 24th July, expresses satisfaction at the recent con-Ráe Sálig Rám, Post-Master-General, N.-W. P. firmation of Ráe Sálig Rám in the office of Post-Master-General of these provinces, and thanks the Government of India for it. The Ráe is an able and experienced officer, and has introduced important reforms into the Postal Department. He has given the lie to the detractors of his countrymen who condemn natives as quite incapable of holding posts of trust and responsibility. The system of administration, which was introduced by Rája Todar Mal, Birbal, Abu-l-Fazl, Faizi, and Nawab Shahbaz Khan in Akbar's time, is still followed by the British Government. There is no dearth of such able men among us at present, but the difficulty is that they are afforded no opportunity of exhibiting their abilities.

Circulation, 700 copies.

Need for a Hindi translation of the new municipal rules for Allahabad.

pality under the new Municipalities Act has been published, and that people who only know Hindi are unable to read them in consequence.

Police officer in charge of the sanitary arrangements, Allahabad.

Police officer in charge every male sweeper who desires to enter the service of the municipal comments, Allahabad.

mittee at Allahabad has to pay Rs. 25, and every female sweeper Rs. 16, to the Muhammadan police.

officer who is in charge of the sanitary arrangements of the city. Moreover, the officer does not pay the sweepers at the full rates, and also fines them something every month. A rumour is prevalent to the effect that the sanitary arrangements will be shortly placed into the hands of another officer. It is to be hoped that he will not levy black-mail from the sweepers.

The Rafiq-i-Hind (Lahore), of the 26th July, states that

Colonel Harcourt, Deputy Commissioner of the Panjáb Government to several illegal proceedings of Colonel Har-

Circulation, 400 copies.

court, Deputy Commissioner of Gurdáspur, in connection with the introduction of local self-government into that district. Probably no subordinate European officer is so greatly opposed to that noble measure of Lord Ripon as he. Some other complaints have lately reached the editor against him. Chhaba Singh, zaildar, has been admitted to the municipal committee, while Ráe Hukam Chand, Honorary Assistant The Rae is well known to Commissioner, has not been. Sir Charles Aitchison, who presented him with a valuable robe of honour at the late Multan Darbar. The fact is that he is not on good terms with Colonel Harcourt. This is the reason why the latter has not recommended him for a membership, and once even turned him out of the premises of his house when he went to see him. It is a matter for deep regret that a man, who is held in such high respect by the Local Government, should be insulted in this way by a Again, Colonel Harcourt insulted Shekh district officer. Amir Bakhsh of Batala, who lately called on him, in the the same way. Our worthy Lieutenant-Governor rises from his seat to receive even ordinary persons, who go to see him, and treats them with courtesy. Officers like the Deputy Commissioner in question are a disgrace to the British nation, and prevent the British rule from becoming as popular as it otherwise would be. is between meant forticing

The same paper, in commenting upon the new Paniáb Re-organization Scheme, regrets to Re-organization Scheme, state that natives have been excluded from all the higher offices. There will be three Judges in the Chief Court, of whom one will be a Barrister-at-law and two Civilians. Hence no native will be eligible for eleva-Pandit Rám Náráyan and Bábu Partol tion to that Court. Chandra Chattarji among the native pleaders in the province are in every way qualified to sit on the bench of The Divisional Courts will consist entirely of the Court. Civilians. One of the two Judges in each Divisional Court should have been a native. There are many native officers, such as Munshi Muhammad Mihndi Khán, Sardár Muhammad Haiyát Khán, Ráe Gopál Dás, Pandit Moti Lál, &c., who would have satisfactorily performed the duties of the office in question. More than one-third of even subordinate judgeships have been reserved for Civilians, although these posts are almost entirely bestowed on natives in other provinces.

The Gurdáspur correspondent of the same paper states

Salám difficulty at Gurthat the salám difficulty has been satisfactorily settled. The Deputy

Commissioner sent for the Extra Judicial Assistant Commissioner and the pleaders to his house, and effected a conciliation between them.

Circulation, 150 copies. The Anjuman-i-Hind (Lucknow), of the 19th July, Scarcity of water at referring to the scarcity of water at Lucknow.

Lucknow, states that the question of water-supply has been under the consideration of the municipal committee for the last three years, but that the committee has not yet come to a decision. The Local Government drew the attention of the committee to the subject in vain. Some time ago the committee showed some activity, and engaged the services of a European engineer, who, after making his surveys, reported that the project would cost about 18 or 20 lakhs of rupees. As soon as the committee heard of the estimated cost, its enthusiasm again cooled

down. If it has no funds, why does it not borrow the money for the purpose? Cannot the Government of India aid the committee in carrying out this necessary scheme? But the difficulty is that the Government has to supply pankhas and tattis to the European soldiers during the hot weather, to pay a large annual subsidy to the Amír of Kabul, and to provide for the spiritual wants of the European officers.

Circulation, 900 copies.

The Victoria Paper (Siálkot), of the 18th July, referring Assessment of the lite to the assessment of the license-tax at Siálkot. at Siálkot, complains that three labourers at Noldográi, who are brothers, have been assessed at Rs. 10 each. They were formerly sweepers and have lately become Musalmáns. They live from hand to mouth, and had to borrow money in order to pay the tax. As their case appears to be a very hard one, it is be hoped that Sir Charles Aitchison will enquire into it. The Government of India would do well to levy a small poll-tax, which should not exceed one rupee per grown-up man, and abolish the obnoxious license-tax.

A correspondent of the Lawrence Gazette (Meerut), of the Ganges Canal officials, 9th July (received on the 23rd idem), Bulandshahr. complains that the Ganges Canal officials in Bulandshahr do not make a fair and equitable distribution of water among the cultivators. There are villages which are equal in area and which pay the same water-tax, but the number of channels for the supply of water widely differs in them; as for instance, there are 13 channels in Achána, but only one or two in Usera, although the two villages have an equal area and pay the same water-tax.

Circulation, 180 copies.

The Rájputána Gazetts (Ajmere), of the 21st July, regrets

Failure of the rains in to state that Rájputána is threatened

Rájputána. by famine owing to the failure of the

rains in that part of the country. The Gazetts advises the

well-to-do classes to raise money by subscriptions and to pur
chase grain out of it, which should be sold to the poorer

classes at cost price in time of dearth.

Circulation,

Circulation, 145 copies. The Ainu-l-Akhbar (Moradabad), of the 24th July, complains that heavy assessments have been made at Moradabad in connection with the license-tax. One Husain Bakhsh, a poor man, who carries on no kind of trade, has been assessed at Rs. 10.

NATIVE STATES.

Circulation, 600 copies.

The Hindustani (Lucknow), of the 23rd July, states that the Pioneer and the Times of India Mahárájá Holkar. have been lately urging the appointment of a Commission to enquire into the charges which have been brought against Holkar. There is no doubt that our contemporaries are only the spokesmen of the Foreign Office, which is pulling the wires from behind the stage. We would have no objection to the assembling of a Commission at Indor, but the Commissions already appointed in Native States on such occasions have been failures. Such Commissions always consist of officers who have a direct or indirect connection with the Political Department, and who are prejudiced in its favour in consequence. Complaints have been made against the Mahárájá only since the elevation of Colonel Bannerman to the Indor Agency. Colonel Bannerman's proceedings at Jaipur are well known and cannot induce us to entertain a very high opinion of him. Any one who is acquianted with the conduct of the Mahárajá and the Foreign Office will have no difficulty in finding out how matters stand. The Mahárájá is not an obsequious man and does not cringe and fawn on the Foreign Office. Hence the outcry raised against him by that office. There have been cases of greater highhandedness in British territory than those which have been laid at the door of the Mahárájá, but no action was taken by the Government of India in them. If the eldest son of the Mahárájá has committed any arbitrary acts, the Government should have him punished. But it will be unjust to visit his sins on the Maharaja. The Foreign Office will continue to bring Native Chiefs into difficulties and to shake their confidence in the justice of the paramount

power, unless it is made to mend its ways. The ruler of Indor has rendered a great service to Feudatory India by laying his grievances before the Viceroy independently of the Foreign Office. He would render a still greater service to her, if he drags the Pioneer and the Foreign Office to the Criminal Court.

The Vritta Dhárá (Dhár), of the 21st July, in answer Circulation. 120 copies. to the charge of misgovernment The same. brought against Holkar by the Pioneer and other Anglo-Indian newspapers, endeavours to show that since his accession to the throne the Maharaja has introduced important reforms into the administration, has managed the affairs of the State with ability, and has always been anxious to promote the welfare of his subjects. The

faults which characterize his government are to be found in every other government. The Vritta states that the Maharaja has been also charged with disloyalty. It has been alleged that he keeps a larger army than that allowed by the treaty stipulations, that he is bent on collecting large quantities of arms and ammunition, that he breaks in new horses

The Vritta advises the these charges are well founded. Maharaja to prosecute his accusers and to bring them to justice.

for his battery, and so on! It is difficult to realize how far

The Rafiq-i-Hind (Lahore), of the 26th July, states that strict mourning, accompanied with an 400 copies. Mourning observed in Kashmir in honour of the death of the Mahárája's entire suspension of trade, was ordered to be observed for thirteen days in daughter-in-law. Jammu in honour of the death of the wife of Mian Amar Singh, a son of the Mahárájá. Even the frying of any article of food in oil or butter was prohibited under the penalty of a fine of Rs. 25 and imprisonment for 6 months! The orders for the observance of such strict mourning afforded the police a favourable opportunity of extorting money from the people. The police charged a baker with preparing his food

Circulation,

in the prohibited way and arrested him. His neighbours bore witness to his innocence in vain. He had to pay a bribe of Rs. 4 to the police in order to purchase his release. A Muhammadan woman was arrested by the police for not putting off her bangles as a sign of mourning, and was not let off until her husband had paid them Rs. 5 as illegal gratification. It is to be hoped that Diwan Anant Ram will enquire into the high-handedness of the police. It would be a good thing if the hartal, or the compulsory suspension of trade and the observance of mourning on the occasion of a death in the reigning family in a native state, was put a stop to. custom is a barbarous one and seriously interferes with the liberty of the people. Surely the fate of the people in a country, where a death in the ruling chief's family renders the use of oil or the putting on of bangles by them a cognizable offence, is not a very enviable one. Even slaves and animals cannot bear such severity.

#### POST-OFFICE.

Circulation,

A correspondent of the Raftq-i-Hind (Lahore), of the 26th

Post-office, Kasauli.

July, writing from Kasauli, is glad to
state that the sub-post-office at that
place has been raised to the position of a full post-office. But
the post-office appears to be under-handed. The same man
receives parcels, registers letters, issues money-orders, and
does the Savings Bank business. Hence the people are
long detained at the post-office windows to their inconvenience. Moreover, there is no veranda or shed for the protection of the people from the inclemencies of the weather
during their detention. The postal authorities should see
to this.

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LIST OF PAPERS EXAMINED.

V	NAKE.	LOGALITY.	LOGALITY. LANGUAGE.	MONTHLY, WEEKLY, OR OTHERWISE.	NAME OF PUBLISHER.	DATE OF PAPER.	DATE OF PAPER. DATE OF RECEIPT. GIRCULATION.	GIRCULATION
						1884.	1884.	
	Kydb-i-Hind Krab-i-Panjib	Jullundur, Urdû	2	Weekly Tri-weekly	Weekly Barkat Alí July 26th Tri-weekly Díváu Bútá Singh, 21st.	. 23rd,	Suly 2	150 copies. 500 "
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222	- 344	Almorá Encknow Labore	Blinds Urds Disto	MEET O	Sadé Nand Chandan Lél Secretary to the Anjuman-i-Panjéb	21st ,, 19th	4 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	Govt.) 102 copies. 150 400 copies (including 200 copies taken
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11	drye Pathra	Barelliy	Barellly Hindi-Urdu, Monthly		Secretary to the	the For June		- <b>!</b>

List of papers examined—(continued).

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List of papers examined -(concluded).

No.	NAME.	LOGALITY.	LOGALITY. LANGUAGE.	MONTHLY, WEEKLY, OR OTHERWISE.	NAME OF PUBLISHER.	DATE OF PAPER.	DATE OF RECEIPT.	CIBCULATION.
						1884.	1884.	
58	Núr-Afshán Núr-i-Badáún Núru-l-Absár	Ludhisns, Badsun Allahsbad,	Urdú Ditto Ditto	Weekly Ditto Ditto	Rev. C. B. Newton Amjad Husain Roshan Lái	8 2 3	July 26th 38th 22nd	775 copies. 300 ". 140 copies (including 48
8	60 Nyaya Sudha	Hards	Marsthi-Eng-	Ditto	Básudeva Bháskar, July 23rd	July 23rd	" 25th	copies taken by Govt.) 350 copies.
8	Oudh Ahhbar	Lucknow,	Lish. Urd <b>e</b>	Daily	Sheo Prasad	" 22nd to 28th	" 22nd to 28th respectively.	605 copies (in- cluding 94
282	Oudh Punch Panjabi Akkbar Panjab Punch	Ditto	Ditto Ditto	Weekly Bi-weekly	Sajjád Husain Muhammad Azím, Fírozu-l-dín	22nd 19th	25th 23nd	by Gove,) 450 copies, 275
588	Patiels 4816gr Prayes Sandolds Frace of Water	Patisis Allahébéd, Mesrut	Ditto Hindi Urdé	Ditto Ditto	Dín Muhammad Dewaki Nandan Ganeshi Lál	28th	25th :: 28th :: 28rd	368 700
#82E	Man Allen	Jullundur, Lahore Senáres Lahore		Ditto Ditto Ditto Bi-weekly	Ahmad Bakhsh Muharram Alí Ghulém Husain Nédir Alí Shén	" 28rd 22nd & 25th	26th 24th 23rd & 26th respectively.	110 400 850

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